



Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

Publication number:

0 178 447
A2

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: 85111301.9

(51) Int. Cl.⁴: H 01 L 21/20
H 01 L 21/268, H 01 L 29/78

(22) Date of filing: 06.09.85

(30) Priority: 09.10.84 JP 211703/84
17.01.85 JP 6221/84

(43) Date of publication of application:
23.04.86 Bulletin 86/17

(84) Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB

(71) Applicant: FUJITSU LIMITED
1015, Kamikodanaka Nakahara-ku
Kawasaki-shi Kanagawa 211(JP)

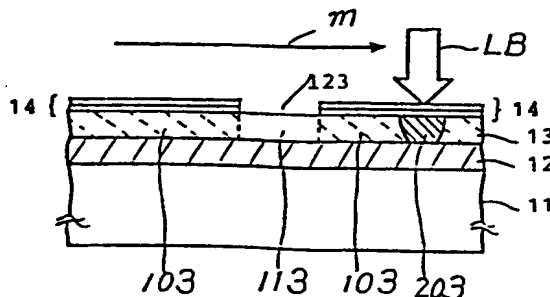
(72) Inventor: Mukai, Ryoichi
722, Shiboguchi Takatsu-ku
Kawasaki-shi Kanagawa, 213(JP)

(74) Representative: Schmidt-Evers, Jürgen, Dipl.-Ing. et al,
Patentanwälte Dipl.-Ing. H. Mitscherlich Dipl.-Ing. K.
Gunschmann Dipl.-Ing. Dr.rer.nat. W. Körber Dipl.-Ing. J.
Schmidt-Evers Dipl.-Ing. W. Melzer Steinsdorfstrasse 10
D-8000 München 22(DE)

(54) A manufacturing method of an integrated circuit based on the semiconductor-on-insulator technology and a device so manufactured.

(57) Random layout of devices or active regions of the devices is allowed for a semiconductor integrated circuit based on an SOI technology using an anti-reflecting film (14). Openings (123) are provided for the anti-reflecting film (14) formed on a polycrystalline silicon layer (13), corresponding to the device regions wherein devices or active regions of the devices are to be formed. An overlapped scan of a laser (LB) beam having diameter larger than the dimension of the openings (123) is applied on the silicon layer (13) through the openings (123) and circumferential anti-reflecting film (14). Concave temperature profile is achieved along every directions (m) across the openings due to the enhanced beam (LB) absorption by the circumferential anti-reflecting film (14), hence recrystallization nucleation of the silicon layer initiates at the center of each opening during the laser beam scan. Thus, self-aligned single crystal regions (113) are fabricated in the polycrystalline silicon layer (13) at the respective predetermined device regions. The channel region of an IG-FET is exclusively formed in the single crystal region (113) and the source or drain regions are formed in adjacent polysilicon regions.

FIG. 4(c)



TITLE OF THE INVENTION

A Fabrication Method of a Semiconductor Integrated Circuit
and a Device Fabricated by Using the Same

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a semiconductor device based on so-called SOI (semiconductor on insulator) technology, particularly to a method for fabricating the semiconductor device by using an anti-reflecting film for laser beam irradiation.

SOI technology has been receiving increasing interests because of its attractive capabilities of providing integrated circuits (ICs) with increased breakdown voltages between isolated circuit components such as transistors and so forth, and also with improved operating speeds due to reduced parasitic capacitances between the circuit components and a substrate the circuit components formed thereon. The outstanding feature of SOI technology is the capability of providing three-dimensional ICs considered as the most promising means of breakthrough for the limitation to the integration density in conventional ICs.

In the early stage of SOI technology, efforts were directed to obtaining a recrystallized region as large as possible in a polycrystalline semiconductor layer such as a polysilicon layer. This resulted in the difficulty of forming a grain boundary free region at desired position in the semiconductor layer. If a grain boundary locates in

1 the active region of a transistor, for example, formed in
the recrystallized region, characteristics of the
5 transistor cannot be comparable to ordinary transistors
fabricated on single crystal silicon substrates. Such
grain boundary becomes the causes of increased leakage
currents and nonuniformity of threshold voltages of the
10 transistors.

Recent development in the SOI technology rather seems
to be concentrated to selective recrystallization of an
amorphous or polycrystalline semiconductor layer. That is,
15 only predetermined regions of a semiconductor layer, in
each of which an active component such as transistor is to
be formed, are recrystallized into single crystal islands.
Though originally proposed for increasing efficiency of the
20 light beam irradiation for recrystallizing a semiconductor
layer, anti-reflecting film coating has been reported to be
advantageous for such selective recrystallization if it is
modified into a stripe structure. (Colinge et al; Applied
25 Physics Letters, vol.41, p.346, 1982). In this method,
transversely arranged stripes of anti-reflecting film are
formed on a amorphous or polycrystalline silicon layer. A
30 laser beam having diameter large enough to cover at least
two adjacent stripes is scanned along the center line
between the stripes. The laser beam energy is controlled
to be at slightly above the lowest level necessary for
35 melting the uncoated region of the silicon layer. Thus, a
desired concaved temperature profile in the lateral

1 direction can be achieved thanks to the greater beam
absorption by the stripes of anti-reflecting film. This
method will be described in some detail in the following.

5 FIGs.1(a) and 1(b) are schematic illustrations of an
amorphous or polycrystalline silicon layer and
stripe-structured anti-reflecting films successively formed
on an amorphous insulating layer, wherein FIG.1(a) is a
10 plan view and FIG.1(b) is a cross-section taken along the
line B-B in FIG.1(a).

Referring to FIG.1(a) and 1(b), an amorphous or
15 polycrystalline silicon layer 22, which is to be
recrystallized into a single crystal, is deposited on an
amorphous insulating layer 21. An anti-reflecting film 23
of silicon nitride, Si_3N_4 , is formed on the silicon layer
20 22, and then, delineated into stripe structures 23 as shown
in FIGs.1(a) and 1(b). If thickness of the anti-reflecting
film stripes 23 is adequately controlled, the reflectivity
of the surface of the silicon layer 22 at the region coated
25 with the stripe 23 can approximately be 5% in contrast to
that of 60% at the uncoated region. As a result, when a
irradiation or laser beam, an argon ion laser beam, for
30 example, having a spot diameter larger than the distance
between the stripes 23 is applied, temperature distribution
profile as shown in FIG.1(c) is obtained in the lateral
direction (i.e. the direction along B-B line in FIG.1(a)).
35 In FIG.1(c), ordinate indicates temperature T and abscissa
indicates the position between the stripes 23. As shown in

1 FIG.1(c), the temperature T is lowest at the center of the
stripes 23.

5 When a laser beam is scanned along the center line
between the stripes 23 in the direction as indicated by the
arrow in FIG.1(a), recrystallization front edges in the
silicon layer is schematically indicated by a curve 25
0 which moves upward according to the scanning of the laser
beam. In FIG.1(a), two curves 25 correspond to respective
recrystallization fronts at two different moments. Each of
the curves 25 indicates a solid-liquid interface and
5 melting point of the silicon layer 22 distributes along the
curve 25. Because the curve 25 (solid-liquid interface
line) has curvature bending behind the front edge, the
growth of a crystal grain nucleated from a virtual seed on
10 the center line is dominant, and finally, spreads over the
region between the stripes 23. As a result, grain
boundaries between the above mentioned dominant grain and
15 other subdominant grains are going to be swept from the
region between the stripes 23 and accumulate under the
stripes 23. Similar concaved temperature profile is
obtained by using a doughnut-shaped laser beam and
20 successful recrystallization is achieved in a polysilicon
layer on an amorphous layer. (Kawamura et al; Applied
Physics Letters, vol.40, p.394, 1982)

25 Thus, with the use of anti-reflecting film stripes, it
is reported that a single crystallized region of 20×100
square microns can be formed in a silicon layer on an

1 amorphous insulating layer. The stripe-structured
anti-reflecting film permits laser beam to be efficient and
5 simple of its shape as a round beam. However, the
stripe-structured anti-reflecting film methodology
inevitably decreases the freedom in the device pattern
layout on a semiconductor layer.

10 Referring to FIGs.1(a) and 1(b), if devices such as
transistors or at least active regions of the devices are
respectively located in regions 26a and 26b of the
semiconductor layer 22, one of the devices or active
15 regions of the devices can be formed in a
single-crystallized region 26a, but another formed in a
region 26b can not be free of a grain boundary because of
the reason as described before. Since grain boundaries
20 provide the device with the aforesaid undesirable
influences, the device pattern layout can not but be
restricted within the region between the anti-reflecting
film stripes 23. This means that random layout of the
25 devices or active regions of the devices is substantially
inhibited and the devices or the active regions must be
positioned in a relatively orderly arrangement instead.
30 As a result, SOI technology using anti-reflecting film
stripes is suitable to integrated circuits (ICs) such as
those based on gate array methodology but is rather not
suitable to ICs requiring random arrangement of devices as
35 in logic ICs. Thus, the anti-reflecting film stripe

1 methodology also restricts efficient use of semiconductor
area in ICs based on SOI.

5 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

10 It is an object of the present invention to provide a
semiconductor integrated circuit based on an SOI technology
using an anti-reflecting film, wherein the layout of
devices on a semiconductor layer can be substantially
random.

15 It is another object of the present invention to
provide a semiconductor integrated circuit based on an SOI
technology using an anti-reflecting film, wherein effective
use of semiconductor area can be achieved.

20 It is further another object of the present invention
to provide an insulated-gate transistor based on an SOI
technology with improved fabrication yield.

25 The above objects can be attained by fabricating a
semiconductor integrated circuit based on an SOI technology
using an anti-reflecting layer but not in the form of
stripes. The fabrication method comprising steps of: (a)
forming an amorphous or polycrystalline semiconductor layer
30 on an amorphous insulating layer; (b) forming an
anti-reflecting film to a light beam on the semiconductor
layer; (c) selectively forming openings at respective
predetermined portions of the anti-reflecting film; (d)
35 irradiating the light beam to an area of surface of the
anti-reflecting film, the area including at least one of

the openings, on conditions that the semiconductor layer is recrystallized to be free of grain boundaries at the opening; and (e) forming a semiconductor device or active region of the device in the recrystallized semiconductor layer at the opening. In accordance with the method, the channel region of an insulated-gate field effect transistor (IG-FET) or metal oxide semiconductor (MOS) transistor is exclusively formed in a recrystallized semiconductor layer at the opening.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The above and other objects and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the following description of embodiments with reference to accompanying drawings forming a part thereof, wherein:

FIGs.1(a) and 1(b) are schematic illustrations of an amorphous or polycrystalline silicon layer formed on an amorphous insulating layer and stripes of anti-reflecting layer formed on the silicon layer, wherein FIG.1(a) is a plan view and FIG.1(b) is a cross-section taken along the line B-B in FIG.1(a);

FIG.1(c) is a temperature distribution profile obtained in the direction along B-B line in FIG.1(a);

FIGs.2(a) and 2(b) are a plan view and enlarged cross-section taken along line B-B in FIG.2(a) in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

1 FIG.3(a) is a plan view schematically illustrating the
growth of single recrystallized region at an opening
5 according to the present invention;

FIGs.3(b) and 3(c) are respective temperature
distribution profiles on the lines E-E and F-F in FIG.3(a);

10 FIGs.4(a) to 4(g) are cross-sections at the respective
fabrication steps of a semiconductor device based on an SOI
technology; and

15 FIGs.5(a) to 5(d) show yet another embodiment of the
present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

20 An embodiment of the present invention is shown in a
plan view of FIG.2(a) and an enlarged cross-section of
FIG.2(b) taken along line B-B in FIG.2(b). Referring first
to FIG.2(b), as a substrate, an insulating layer of SiO_2
layer 4 of thickness of about 1 micron is formed on a
25 silicon wafer 3 by using a thermal oxidation process, for
example. Respective one of silicon nitride layer 5 and
polysilicon layer 6 having thicknesses of 1000 Å and 4000
Å, respectively, are successively formed on the SiO_2 layer
30 4 by using low pressure chemical vapor deposition (LPCVD)
methods, for example. The polysilicon layer 6 is the layer
to be subject to a recrystallization process later, and the
silicon nitride layer 5 is for improving adhesion of the
35 polysilicon layer 6 to the SiO_2 layer 4 after the
recrystallization. A SiO_2 layer 7 of about 300 Å is formed

0178447

by thermally oxidizing the surface of the polysilicon layer 6 and then a silicon nitride layer 8 of about 300 Å is deposited thereon by using an LPCVD method, for example. The SiO₂ layer 7 and silicon nitride layer 8 constitute anti-reflecting film 2 in FIG.2(a). The thickness of the anti-reflecting film 2 is determined according to the wave length of laser beam for the recrystallization and the refractive index of the layer materials to the wave length. The anti-reflecting film may comprises a single layer of either of SiO₂ or silicon nitride, however, the double-layered structure of the anti-reflecting film allows to take advantages as described in later.

Referring back to FIG.2(a), the anti-reflecting layer 2 is provided with substantially rectangular-shaped openings (windows) 1a, 1b, 1c and so forth, instead of being formed into the stripe structure in the prior art as shown in FIGs.1(a) and 1(b). Each of the openings is positioned so as to correspond to a device region (the region in which a device such as transistor or the active region such as channel region of the transistor is formed). The dimension of the opening is 10 to 20 microns, for example.

A light beam from a cw (continuous wave) Ar ion laser, for example, having output power of 8 to 14 watts is scanned over the anti-reflecting film 2 and the polysilicon layer at the openings 1a, 1b, 1c and so forth at a speed of 5 cm/sec. The scan of the laser beam is carried out by

1 translating the wafer 3 relative to a fixed beam or it may
be done vice versa, wherein scanning pitch is controlled to
5 be smaller than the diameter of the beam D so that the
traces of the scanned beam overlap each other. A
preferable overlap ratio is approximately 70 per cent of
the beam diameter. The beam diameter D is 80 to 100
0 microns in terms of the width of irradiated region on the
substrate. The dimension of an opening is 10 to 20 microns
as mentioned before. Hence, since the beam is relatively
larger than the openings (4 to 10 times) and the scanning
5 speed is relatively high compared with the dimension of
openings, the polysilicon layer at each opening can be
assumed to be heated with a pulse of a fixed beam. In the
above, the beam for the recrystallization should not be
0 limited to a laser beam but other energy beam such as a
focused emission of a mercury lamp may be employed if it
can provide a sufficient energy density.

5 FIG.3(a) is a plan view schematically illustrating the
growth of single recrystallized region in an opening, for
example, the opening 1a in FIG.2(a). FIGs.3(b) and 3(c)
are temperature distribution profiles along the lines E-E
and F-F in FIG.3(a), respectively, wherein T indicates
0 temperature and coordinates on the respective axes
perpendicular to the temperature axes indicate the position
on lines E-E and F-F. The same as in the prior art using
15 stripe-structured anti-reflecting film as described with
reference to FIGs.1(a) to 1(c), the temperature T is lowest

1 at the center of the opening 1a in both E-E and F-F
directions and increases toward the periphery of the
5 opening 1a because of the greater absorption of the laser
beam irradiation by the anti-reflecting film 2. As a
result, recrystallization of the polysilicon layer
initiates from the nucleus 9 at the center of the opening
1 immediately after the cease of the pulsed laser beam
irradiation. A substantially isotropic recrystallization
occurs to spread as shown by circles 10 in FIG.1(a), and
finally, fills in the opening 1a. Thus, a
grain-boundary-free single crystal polysilicon layer is
formed in the opening 1a, and similarly in other openings.

Another embodiment of the present invention will be
described in the following with reference to FIGs.4(a) to
4(g) illustrating cross-sections at the respective
fabrication steps of a semiconductor device based on SOI
technology.

Referring to FIG.4(a), a SiO_2 insulating layer 12 of
thickness of about 1 micron is formed on a silicon
substrate 11 by using a thermal oxidation process, and
then, an amorphous or polycrystalline silicon layer 13 of
thickness of about 4000 Å is deposited on the insulating
layer 12 by using a CVD (chemical vapor deposition) method.
In the following description of this embodiment, a
polysilicon layer stands for the silicon layer 13. The
polysilicon layer 13 is then doped with a predetermined
concentration of boron, B, as a p-type impurity by an ion

1 implantation technique. Thus, the polysilicon layer 13 is
provided with p-type conductivity.

5 A SiO_2 thin film 121 of thickness of about 300 Å is
formed on the polysilicon layer 13 by using a thermal
oxidation process, and then a silicon nitride (Si_3N_4) film
122 of thickness of about 300 Å is deposited on the SiO_2
10 film 121 by a CVD method. The SiO_2 film 121 and Si_3N_4 film
122 are selectively removed as shown in FIG.4(b) by using a
conventional photolithographic technique so that openings
throughout the films are formed at predetermined regions
15 Ach. Each of the regions is referred to as device region
in which an insulated gate field effect transistor (IG-FET)
or at least the channel of the transistor is to be formed.
In FIG.4(b), only one opening 123 is illustrated.

20 The SiO_2 film 121 and Si_3N_4 film 122 constitutes an
anti-reflecting film to the laser beam irradiation. The
anti-reflecting film may comprise either one of SiO_2 or
25 Si_3N_4 film as mentioned before, however, the double-layered
anti-reflecting film as shown in FIG.4(b) permit to take
advantage of large etching rate difference between SiO_2 and
 Si_3N_4 or silicon to etchants such as carbon tetra-fluoride
30 (CF_4) gas and a hydrochloric acid (HF) solution. For
instance, during a dry etching process for forming the
opening 123, the SiO_2 film 121 having a relatively low
etching rate compared with those of the Si_3N_4 film 122 and
35 polysilicon layer 13 plays a role of a stopping layer
against the etching by an etchant gas such as CF_4 but it

1 can easily be removed by HF solution without affecting the
polysilicon layer 13. Thus, the process for forming
5 precision openings 123 in the anti-reflecting film on the
polysilicon layer 123 can be facilitated.

During the substrate 11 is heated at about 450°C in
atmospheric air, scan of a laser beam LB, Ar ion laser, for
example, in the direction of an arrow m is applied to the
polysilicon layer 13 through the anti-reflecting film 14 as
shown in FIG.4(c). Hence, every portions of the
polysilicon layer 13 are brought into a molten state once
according to the scan of the laser beam, and its
corresponding region to the opening 123 is recrystallized
into a single crystal 113. In FIG.4(c), references 103 and
203 designate a domain recrystallized into a
polycrystalline state and that in molten state,
respectively.

Intensity and scanning speed of the laser beam LB are
controlled to be enough for melting the polysilicon layer
13 under the anti-reflecting film 14 which decreases the
reflectivity of the surface of the polysilicon layer 13 to
about 5 per cent but insufficient for melting a polysilicon
layer alone having surface reflectivity of about 60 per
cent alone. (i.e. the laser beam is too weak to raise the
polysilicon layer 13 at the opening 123 up to the melting
point if no anti-reflecting layer 14 is formed around the
opening 123.) Exemplary conditions complying with such
requirement are as follows:

1

Laser output: 10 Watts

Laser beam diameter: 50 microns

5

Scanning speed: 5 cm/sec

10

In the above, the laser beam diameter is defined in terms of the width of melted region of a polycrystalline layer coated with an anti-reflecting film when a laser beam is scanned thereon.

15

With the scan of a laser beam under the above conditions, recrystallization of the polysilicon layer 13 initiates at the center of the opening 123 and spreads therein as explained with reference to FIG.3 (a). Thus, the polysilicon layer 13 at the opening 123 becomes single crystal, however, desirable recrystallization into a single crystal layer does not occur in the circumferential polysilicon layer 13 under the anti-reflecting film 14 as mentioned before.

20

25

In accordance with the object of the present invention, a number of openings in an anti-reflecting film can be positioned randomly, corresponding to the regions, each for forming a device or active region of the device therein. As a result, it is probable that when a laser beam is scanned with aforesaid overlapping manner, the edge of the laser beam occasionally crosses over an opening at which the polysilicon layer has already been single-crystallized. However, the single-crystallized layer in the region would not be melted again by the laser beam scan, because heat necessary for the

30

35

1 single-crystallized region to reach again its melting point
is not supplied from the un-irradiated side region of the
5 opening.

After the polysilicon layer 13 at each opening 123 is
recrystallized to be grain boundary free (whereas each
corresponding circumferential region is recrystallized as a
polycrystal layer), the Si_3N_4 film 122 and SiO_2 film 121
constituting the anti-reflecting film 14 are removed by
using a hot phosphoric acid solution and a hydrofluoric
acid solution, respectively. Then, the polysilicon layer
5 13 is formed into islands so that each island includes one
of the single-crystallized region 113 and corresponding
polycrystalline circumferential region 103, as shown in
FIG.4(d).

3 The surface of the island is thermally oxidized, hence
a gate oxide layer 15 having a predetermined thickness is
formed as shown in FIG.4(e). Subsequently, a polysilicon
layer of thickness of about 4000 Å is formed on the island
5 by a conventional CVD process and selectively etched by
using an ordinary photolithographic technique so that a
gate electrode 16 is left on the single-crystallized region
0 113.

Following the above, high concentration of an impurity
such as arsenic (As) is ion-implanted into the silicon
layer 103 with the use of polysilicon gate electrode 16 as
5 a mask, hence n^+ -type source or drain regions 17 and 18 are
formed after an annealing at temperature 1050°C, as shown

0178447

1 in FIG.4(f). Thus, basic structure of an insulated-gate
field effect transistor (IG-FET) or MOS transistor is
5 completed based on SOI technology.

An insulating coating layer 19 is formed on each of
the transistor structure. The insulating coating layer 19
having thickness of about 8000 Å is, then, provided with
10 contact holes 100 through which connections to the source
or drain regions 17 and 18 are provided by the respective
wiring layers 110 and 120 of aluminum, for example, as
shown in FIG.(g). If a PSG (phospho-silicate glass) layer
15 is used for the insulating coating layer 19, a heat process
(conventionally referred to as a reflow process) at 1050°C,
for example, is needed for blunting the sharp edge of the
contact holes 100.

20 As described above, a heat process at a temperature as
high as 1050°C is necessary for the annealing of the
ion-implanted source or drain regions 17 and 18 or the
reflow process for the contact holes 100 in a PSG layer.
25 The heat process at such high temperature tends to cause
diffusion of doped impurities from the source or drain
regions 17 and 18 to the single crystal region 113. If a
30 grain boundary should exist in the single crystal region
113, the impurity diffusion along the grain boundary would
be accelerated, and thus, the problems in the prior art,
such as increased leak currents, non-uniform threshold
35 voltages, source-drain breakdown failures, etc. in the

1 devices formed in the recrystallized semiconductor layer,
would occur.

5 Again, in the prior art SOI technology using
anti-reflecting film, it is substantially impossible to
recrystallize a semiconductor layer selectively only at the
device regions. As a result, the regions to be grain
0 boundary free are formed inevitably large in order to
provide some degree of freedom in the arrangement of the
devices. This results in difficulty in the fabrication and
poor yield of semiconductor integrated circuits based on
5 the SOI technology. On the other hand, according to the
present invention, it is possible to recrystallize a
semiconductor layer at arbitrary regions corresponding to
the device regions, as explained in the above embodiments.
10 As a result, small semiconductor regions, each of which
afford to accommodate at least the active region of a
device, for example, a channel region of an IG-FET, can
selectively be grain boundary free, corresponding to the
25 device layout. Thus, according to the present invention,
the IG-FETs, for example, in a semiconductor integrated
circuit based on an SOI technology can be free from the
prior art problems relating to the grain boundaries, and
30 therefore, superior characteristics and greater fabrication
yield of the integrated circuit can also be provided. It
is obvious that entire region of a device including the
35 source or drain regions of an IG-FET, for example, can be
fabricated in a grain-boundary-free region formed according

0178447

1 to the present invention, since the grain-boundary-free
region can be large as 10x20 square microns.

5 FIGs.5(a) to 5(d) show further another embodiment of
the present invention. A polycrystalline semiconductor
layer 41, polysilicon layer, for example, having thickness
of about 4000 Å is formed on an insulating layer 40 having
10 thickness of about 1 micron, and an anti-reflecting film 42
having an opening 421 is formed on the polysilicon layer
41, as shown in FIG.5(a). The anti-reflecting film 42 may
has a double-layered structure comprising a Si_3N_4 layer 422
15 and an underlying SiO_2 layer 423, each having a thickness
of about 300 Å. The polysilicon layer 41 at the opening
421 is recrystallized to be grain boundary free by a laser
beam irradiation, as described in the previous embodiments.
20 The surface of the polysilicon layer 41 at the opening 421
is thermally oxidized to form a SiO_2 layer 411 of thickness
of about 1000 Å. The anti-reflecting film 42 protects the
polysilicon layer 41 around the opening 421 from the
25 thermal oxidation.

The Si_3N_4 layer 422 of the anti-reflecting film 42 is
removed by using a selective etchant such hot phosphoric
30 acid solution. The SiO_2 layer 411 and the exposed SiO_2
layer 423 as shown in FIG.5(b) are subjected to a dry
etching process using an etchant such as CF_4 plasma. The
time necessary for etching off the 300 Å SiO_2 layer 423 is
35 about 40 seconds and that for the 1000 Å SiO_2 layer 411 is
about 120 seconds. Hence, the surface of the polysilicon

0178447

1 layer 41 around the opening 421 is first exposed to the CF_4
plasma, and subsequently etched off completely before the
5 remaining about 700 Å SiO_2 layer 411 is etched off, as
shown in FIG.5(c), because etch rate of silicon by CF_4
plasma is about 100 times larger than that of SiO_2 . The
dry etching is continued until the SiO_2 layer 411 is just
10 removed, and finally, a single crystal island 412 of
silicon is left on the insulating layer 40, as shown in
FIG.5(d). Thus, self-aligned single crystal silicon
islands can be obtained in accordance with the SOI
15 technology of the present invention.

While the described embodiments represent the
preferred form of the present invention, it is to be
understood that modifications will occur to those skilled
20 in the art without departing from the spirit of the
invention. The scope of the present invention is therefore
to be determined by the appended claims.

25

30

35

0178447

CLAIMS

1
5 1. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device,
comprising the steps of:

forming an amorphous or polycrystalline semiconductor
layer on an amorphous insulating layer;

10 forming an anti-reflecting film to a light beam on
said semiconductor layer;

selectively forming openings at respective
predetermined portions of said anti-reflecting film;

15 irradiating said light beam to an area of surface of
said anti-reflecting film, said area including at least one
of said openings, on conditions that said semiconductor
layer is recrystallized to be free of grain boundaries at
20 said opening; and

forming a semiconductor device or active region of
said device in said recrystallized semiconductor layer at
25 said opening.

30 2. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 1, wherein said semiconductor is silicon.

3. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 1, further comprising a step of forming an
insulated gate electrode on said recrystallized region of
35 said semiconductor layer, said insulated gate electrode
comprising a gate electrode and an insulating layer formed

0178447

1 between said gate electrode and said recrystallized region
of said semiconductor layer.

5 4. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 3, further comprising a step of forming
respective regions for source and drain in said
10 semiconductor layer, said source and drain regions facing
each other across said recrystallized region of said
semiconductor layer and abutting said recrystallized
region.

15 5. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 3, wherein said semiconductor is silicon.

20 6. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 5, wherein said insulating layer is a
silicon dioxide layer.

25 7. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 6, wherein said silicon dioxide layer is
formed by using LPCVD (low pressure chemical vapor
30 deposition).

35 8. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 6, wherein said insulating silicon dioxide
layer is formed by thermally oxidizing the surface of said
recrystallized region of said semiconductor layer.

0178447

1 9. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 1, wherein said anti-reflecting layer
5 comprises a silicon nitride layer.

10 10. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 9, wherein said anti-reflecting layer
10 further comprises underlying silicon dioxide layer.

15 11. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 1, wherein said light beam is a laser beam.

20 12. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 11, wherein said laser beam is an Ar ion
laser beam.

25 13. A fabrication method of a semiconductor device as set
forth in claim 1, wherein said light beam is scanned over
said anti-reflecting layer so that semiconductor regions at
said openings are consecutively recrystallized.

30 14. An insulated-gate field-effect transistor (IG-FET)
fabricated in a semiconductor layer formed on an amorphous
insulating layer (24, 4, 12, 40), said semiconductor
layer (22, 6, 13, 41) having a recrystallized region in
35 which channel region of said IG-FET is exclusively
formed.

FIG. 1(a)

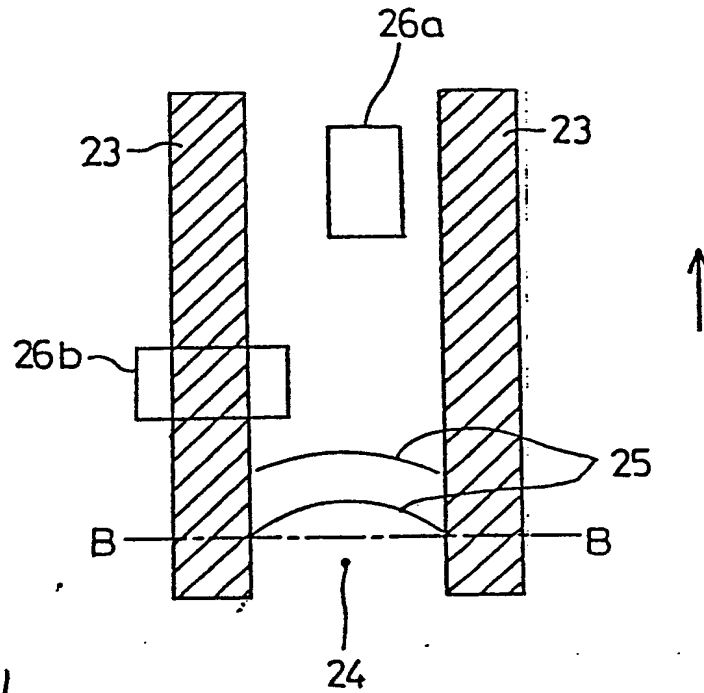


FIG. 1(b)

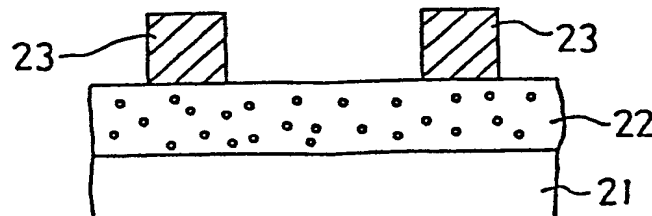


FIG. 1(c)

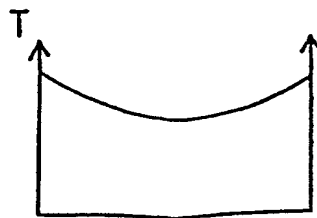


FIG. 2(a)

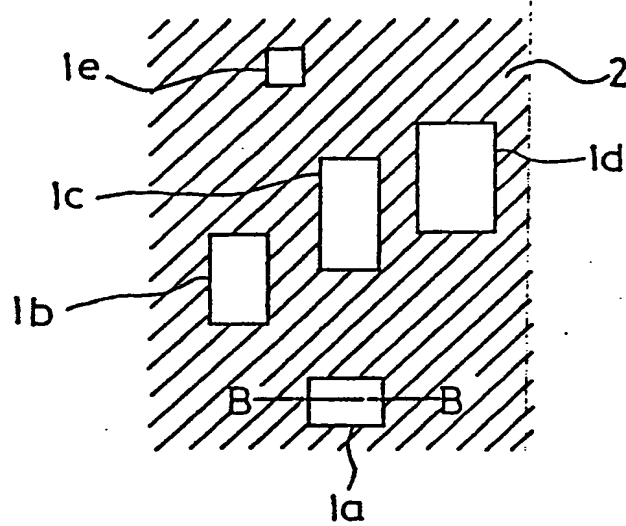


FIG. 2(b)

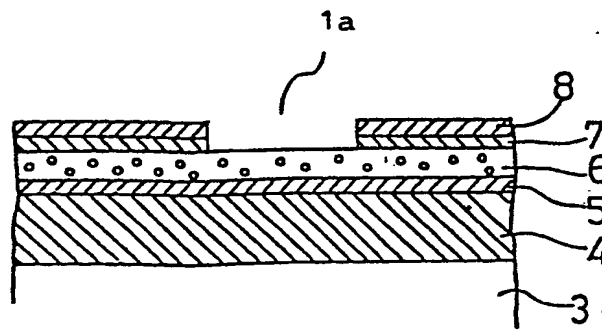


FIG. 3(a)

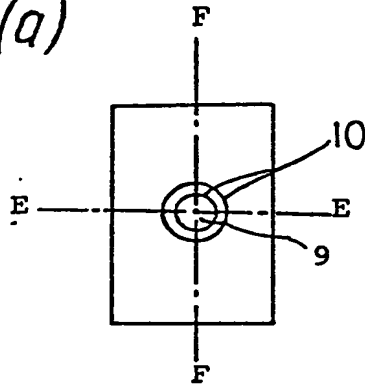


FIG. 3(c)

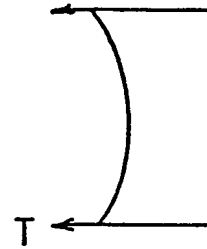


FIG. 3(b)

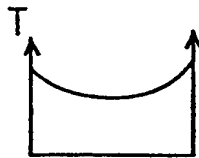


FIG. 4(a)

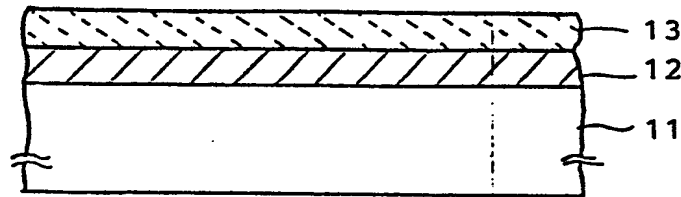


FIG. 4(b)

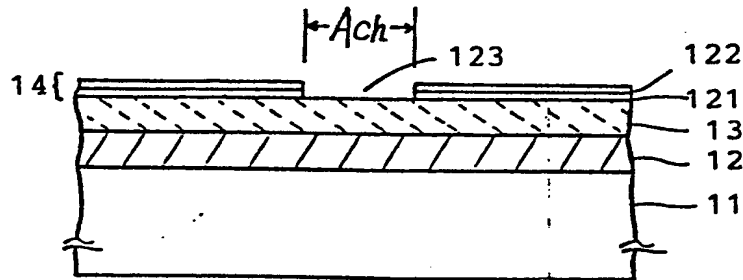


FIG. 4(c)

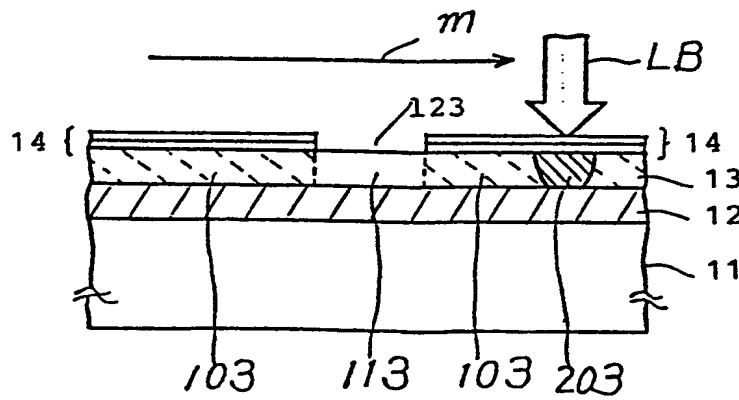


FIG. 4(d)

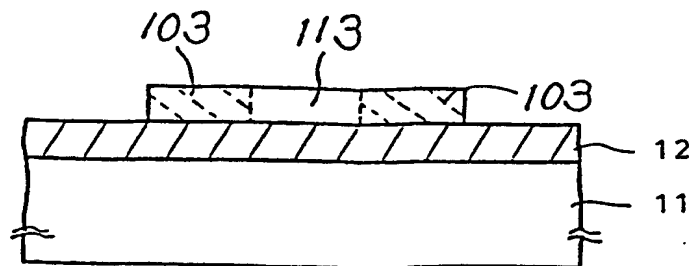


FIG. 4(e)

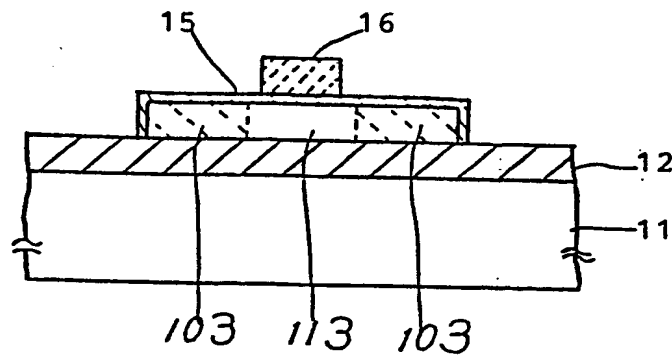


FIG. 4(f)

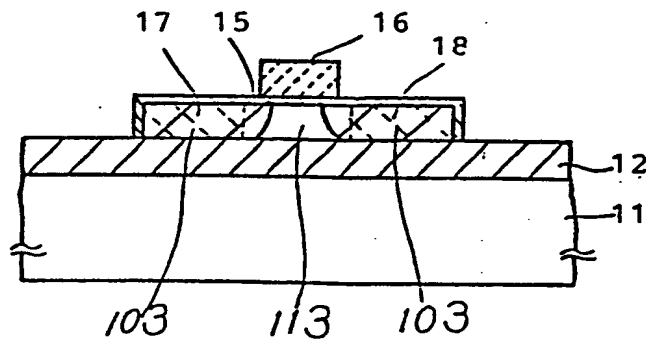
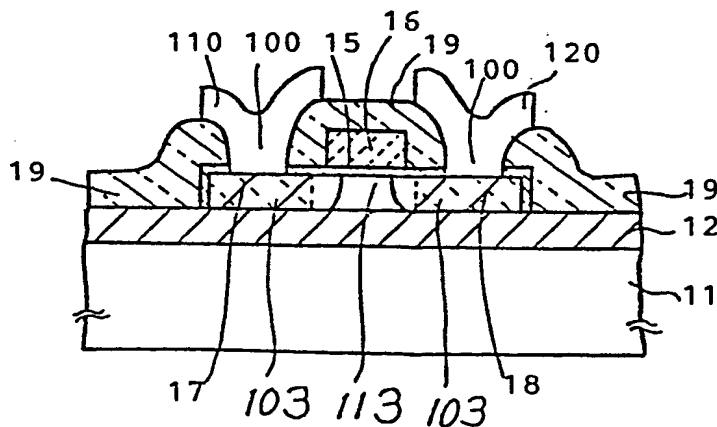


FIG. 4(g)



75

FIG. 5(a)

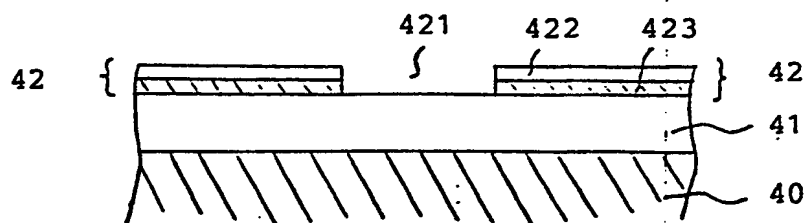


FIG. 5(b)

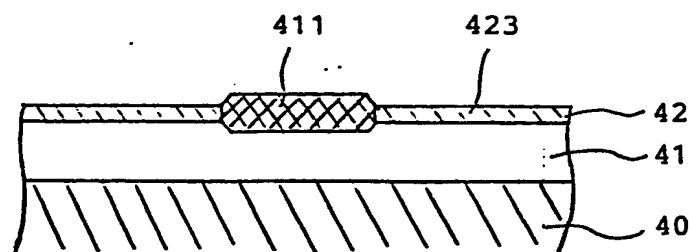


FIG. 5(c)

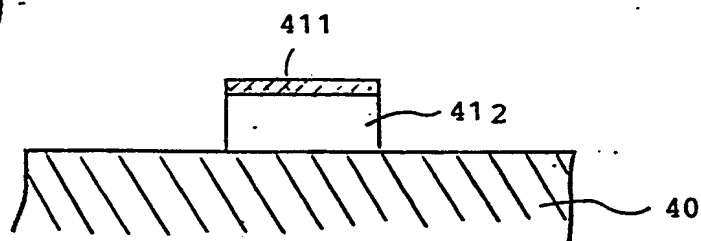


FIG. 5(d)

